



Wagner-Peyser Act employment services

*November 2011
Doc. #09-005-C*

***On average,
helped more
than 14,000
people find jobs
each month in
FY 2010-11***

***In FY 2010-11,
nearly 8,000
employers listed
jobs with
WorkSource***

The federal Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 created a nationwide system of employment service offices to help job seekers find jobs and employers find qualified workers. Later, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 made the employment-service offices part of the statewide career-service delivery system, known in Washington as WorkSource.

Services for job seekers

WorkSource offers job seekers a variety of employment-related services, including:

- Skill assessments.
- Job-search assistance.
- Job referrals and placement assistance.
- Re-employment services for unemployment insurance claimants.

In addition, WorkSource staff:

- Enforce job-search requirements for unemployment-insurance claimants, and
- Disseminate labor-market information that is produced by the labor-market information arm of Employment Security.

WorkSource employment services target individuals who historically need the most help finding work. Military veterans receive priority referral to jobs and training, as well as special employment services and assistance. The system also focuses attention and service on dislocated workers, migrant and seasonal farmworkers, welfare recipients, ex-offenders, teens, older workers, people with disabilities and others.

Services for employers

Services offered to employers include referring job seekers to their available job openings as well as:

- Matching job seekers to job openings based on their skills, experience and other attributes.
- Recruiting workers for job openings.
- Organizing job fairs.
- Helping employers analyze hard-to-fill job orders.

During the July 2010-June 2011 fiscal year, WorkSource staff listed jobs for nearly 8,000 businesses and helped more than 14,000 Washingtonians find jobs each month. During the same time period, more than 50 percent of people who received WorkSource services found work within three months.

Go2WorkSource.com is the online employment website for the WorkSource system. The website provides self-service access to WorkSource services that help businesses thrive and help job-seekers achieve successful careers. Every month, the website is used by job seekers to conduct more than 1.7 million job searches and to submit more than 200,000 job applications. Employers also use the site, reviewing about 10,000 résumés a month. Even during the recession, there were typically more than 20,000 job listings and 150,000 résumés posted on the site at any one time.

**\$14.6 million for
FY 2011-12**

Funding

For the July 2011-June 2012 fiscal year, the U.S. Department of Labor has allocated \$14.6 million for employment services in Washington, nearly the same amount as the year before.

Two-thirds of the funds are allocated based on the state's relative share of civilian workers compared with all other states, and one-third on the state's relative number of unemployed workers.

The majority of Wagner-Peyser funds (90 percent) to the state are designated to provide employment services to employers and job seekers. With the remaining 10 percent, the Governor may approve projects that provide federally authorized services to targeted groups of customers, provided that federal funds are not used to supplant state funds.

Contacts

*Rick Van Cise, communications contact, 360-902-9454
Ken Kelnhofer, program director, 360-407-1317*